

The weekly Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study meeting is held Thursdays at the Ecology Headquarters building in Lacey and via teleconference. Along with Ecology staff, attendees include military personnel from the [Emergency Management Division](#) (EMD), and staff from Washington [Utility Transportation Commission](#) (UTC). The following is a summary of the **May 8, 2014** discussion:

### **DOT Emergency Order**

This week the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) filed an emergency order, requiring railroad carriers to report to the [State Emergency Response Commission](#) (SERC) the number of trains per week and amount of crude oil shipped through the state via railcar for any train carrying more than one million gallons of oil (approximately 35 rail cars). The group discussed how the information would be gathered and disseminated and determined the need to further explore the state's process for collecting the data and providing it to the public.

### **Advisory Opinion – Railcar Safety**

Concerns about the DOT-111, an older model tank rail car (since 1991), perpetuated a call for new rail car standards by USDOT Secretary, Andy Foxx in late April. Said standards could be in place as soon as this summer.

### **Emergency Management Department Update**

The interagency agreement between the military and Ecology was finalized and signed this week. Staff also began outreach to local emergency [local emergency planning committees](#) (LEPC) and SERC, as well as made a connection to [Washington Fire Chief](#).

### **Washington Utility & Transportation Commission Update**

May 13, the UTC will present Rail 101 to the Legislature. The presentation will primarily be focused on rail jurisdiction. Ecology Spills staff will be at briefing.

A work session in Spokane is scheduled for June 17, UTC is hoping to coordinate it with a City of Spokane city council meeting that is occurring around the same time. UTC will be attending along with an oil inspector.

UTC's weekly meetings are in place and the team is developing the scope of the rail portion for the study. The timeline feeds into the broader study timeline.

### **Project Status and Review**

Interviews for the Environmental Engineer 5 (rail position) are scheduled for May 16 & 23. The MTSS interviews (marine position) will happen concurrently – May 27 and 28. Ecology hopes to hire shortly thereafter with a June start date.

The [RFQQ](#) for a consultant for this study is receiving much interest and the pre-bid conference is May 19. The RFQQ remains open until June 2.